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P O R T O F F O L K E S T O N E.



A N N U A L R E P O R T

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R. F. H. McElligott, M.B., Ch.B.,
Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer.

PORT OF FOLKESTONE.

Public Health Department,
Foord Road,
FOLKESTONE.

April, 1956.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough and Port of Folkestone.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit the Annual Report on the medical aspect of the working of the Port of Folkestone for 1955.

Regular boat services during the year have been as follows:-

(a) Folkestone-Calais.

(1) Daily passenger service by French steamer, Cote D'Azur, and reliefs by British Railways steamer from 1st January to 31st December, 1955.
(Outward bound service took Golden Arrow passengers.)

(b) Folkestone-Boulogne.

(1) Daily evening passenger service from 10th June to 1st October, 1955.
(2) Daily morning passenger service from 2nd July to 13th September, 1955. An irregular service was in force from 11th June until the commencement of the daily service and also during the period 15th to 25th September, 1955.

Special excursion and "no-passport" trips were also run to France during the Summer season.

Usual cargo service was maintained to and from Calais and Boulogne.

A total of 597,595 passengers passed through the port during the year, and this figure showed an increase of 68,404 compared with 1954 despite the fact that the port was virtually at a standstill for over a fortnight because of the rail strike in France.

The Folkestone-Boulogne services, only operating between 10th June and 1st October, 1955, carried nearly three-fifths of the travellers of whom only a small number, in comparison, were day excursionists.

The gross figures for the past five years are:-

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
Inwards	285,782	260,975	224,526	277,388	310,646
Outwards	<u>251,405</u>	<u>237,622</u>	<u>219,363</u>	<u>251,803</u>	<u>286,949</u>
Total	<u>537,187</u>	<u>498,597</u>	<u>443,889</u>	<u>529,191</u>	<u>597,595</u>

Further increase in the number of aliens arriving - 11,299 more than during 1954. 1,159 more aliens medically examined.

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
Aliens					
arriving ..	65,928	61,624	54,821	58,896	70,195
Aliens medically examined ..	10,740	8,564	7,062	8,696	9,855
Certificates issued ..	10	20	12	11	17
Percentage to whom certificates issued ..	.09	.23	.17	.12	.17
Percentage of aliens examined ..	.16	13.9	12.9	14.8	14.0

The aliens arriving to take up employment in United Kingdom continue to come mainly from Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Germany and France.

The men came to be employed in the tinplate works, brickyards, iron foundries, coalite works, tile works and for technical and professional employment with firms and as hotel workers; the women were mainly domestics, children's nurses and governesses, assistant hospital nurses, ward orderlies, textile and factory workers, etc.

Seventeen medical certificates were issued as a result of inspections under the Aliens Order; five were landed conditionally and twelve not permitted to land.

Six passengers in transit were medically examined; two were medical, two mental and two the result of accidents abroad.

An English nurse aged 25, who was unwell when she arrived at Folkestone Harbour, was allowed to proceed with her parents in own car and was admitted to Chichester Hospital suffering from Paratyphoid Fever.

An outbreak of Smallpox occurred in Northern France in January.

In consequence, special preventative measures were instituted at Folkestone Harbour. These included examination of any passengers who had proceeded from the affected areas, and vaccination of British Railway, Immigration and Customs Staff working at the Harbour.

No case of Smallpox came through the Port of Folkestone, and the outbreak was declared at an end on July 8th.

I attended a meeting of the Association of Sea and Air Port Health Authorities on February 10th when the draft revised Instructions to Medical Inspectors of Aliens was discussed.

I would like in conclusion to express my appreciation of the efficient work carried out by the Medical Staff at the Harbour during a busy year, and also of the continued co-operation of the Immigration Officials, Customs Officials and Ships' Staffs.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

R.F.H. McELLIGOTT.

Port Medical Officer.

Table A.

Name of Officer.	Nature of Appointment.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Resignation.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
R.F.H. McElligott.	Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer. (Temporary.)	29.12.50.	-	H.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.	Medical Inspector of Aliens. (Part-time.)
L.H. Vale.	Senior Sanitary Inspector for Borough and Port. Assistant Officer under Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.	-1.10.49.	-	*L.R.San.I., Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.	
L.F. Pattman.	Deputy Sanitary Inspector for Borough and Port. Assistant Officer under Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.	-5.11.28.	-	*A.R.San.I., Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.	
A. Stubb.	Port Health Inspector. Assistant Officer under Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.	-1. 2.45.	-	*Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.	
A. Colgan.	Port Health Inspector. Assistant Officer under Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.	-3.12.51.	-	*M.R.San.I., Cert.S.I.B.	
G.A. Hagedorn.	Port Health Inspector. Assistant Officer under Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.	27. 5.52.	-8. 5.55.	*Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.	Sanitary Inspector for the Borough of Folkestone.
S. Davey.	Port Health Inspector. Assistant Officer under Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.	-1.12.55.	-	*Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.	
<p>*Also hold Certificates of Royal Sanitary Institute as "Inspector of Meat and Other Foods."</p> <p>Address and telephone number) Public Health Department, Old Harvey Grammar School,</p> <p>of the Medical Officer of Health.) Foord Road, Folkestone, Kent.</p> <p>Telephone No: Folkestone 2463.</p>					

SECTION II - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

Table B.

Ships from:	Number.	Tonnage.	Number Inspected By the Medical Officer of Health.	Number Inspected By the Sanitary Inspector.	Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board.
Foreign Ports ..	757	869,539	-	6	-
Coastwise	28	28,907	-	-	-
TOTAL ..	785	898,446	-	6*	-

* These 6 vessels were regularly inspected.
Total number of inspections = 132.

SECTION III - Character of shipping and trade
during the year.

Table C.

Passenger Traffic ..	(Number of Passengers - INWARDS: 310,646.
	(Number of Passengers - OUTWARDS: 286,949.
Cargo Traffic ..	(Principal IMPORTS - Dates, fruit, vegetables, preserved meat, preserved fruit, wines and spirits, nuts, horses and general cargo of miscellaneous character.
	(Principal EXPORTS - Horses, fish and general merchandise.
Principal Ports from which ships arrive - Calais and Boulogne.	

SECTION IV - Inland barge traffic.

Number and tonnage using the district and places served by the traffic.

N I L.

SECTION V - Water supply.

(1) Source of supply for -

(a) the district:

Water is obtained from the Folkestone Waterworks Company, with the exception of a very limited supply from a source on British Railways own property which is used for flushing sanitary conveniences at the entrance to the harbour, and for re-filling tanks on locomotives.

(1) Source of supply for -

(b) shipping:

Drinking water obtained from tanks filled from hydrants on quay side connected to town supply, viz., Folkestone Waterworks Company.

(2) Reports of Tests for contamination.

Routine samples submitted for bacteriological examination proved satisfactory.

(3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

Hydrants and hosepipes periodically flushed through.

(4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

N I L.

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

(1) LIST OF INFECTED AREAS. (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

A list of infected areas has been prepared and amended from time to time by taking into account all information supplied by the Ministry of Health in the Weekly Record of Quarantineable Diseases.

It is divided into the six quarantineable diseases (plague, cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, typhus and relapsing fever) and the various countries, localities and seaports which are infected or believed to be infected are shown under the appropriate disease.

These lists were sent by post to the Chief Customs Officer at the Folkestone Harbour.

(2) RADIO MESSAGES.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

Use of radio station controlled by Harbour Authorities, viz., British Railways Marine Department (Headquarters at Dover).

(b) Arrangements for receiving message by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulations 14(1)(a) and (2)).

All vessels normally using the Port are equipped with radio transmitting apparatus and arrangements have been made for notification of cases of suspected infectious disease.

(3) NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO. (Regulation 14(1)(b)).

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

This Port has no signalling station but arrangements would be made to get such notification through in an emergency.

All vessels met by H.M. Customs and Port Health Inspectors.

(4) MOORING STATIONS. (Regulations 22 to 30.)

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

(a) Within the docks.

Their place of mooring, discharge or loading.

(b) Outside the docks.

A point one mile South by West of Harbour Pier head.

No standing directions issued but action taken would be in accordance with these Regulations.

(5) ARRANGEMENTS FOR -

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII.)

At either the Dover or Ashford Isolation Hospitals or, in case of difficulty, application made to the Emergency Bed Service.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.

In accordance with Sections 31 and 37 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952. Names and addresses would be taken and forwarded to Medical Officers of Health of areas to which the contacts were proceeding.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

No facilities exist for cleansing of persons on the Harbour. Baths available under the auspices of the Folkestone Corporation. Ships' quarters disinfected after infection. Clothing and other articles submitted to steam disinfection.

SECTION VII - Smallpox.

(1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, Kent.

(2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

Patients suffering from Smallpox would be removed by arrangement with the Canterbury City Ambulance Service, which authority is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Name of Smallpox Consultant available.

Dr. Rex Fletcher of 30 Cheriton Gardens, Folkestone. (Tel. No: Folkestone 3688).

(4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

A laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service was opened at the County Hall, Maidstone, on the 1st October, 1955. (Tel. No: Maidstone 4321).

The Director of the laboratory is Dr. J.H.C. Walker.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under the international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Clinics under the control of Dr. C.M. Ockwell are available as follows:-

General Hospital, King's Avenue, Ashford	..	Mondays and Wednesdays. 11 a.m. to 12 noon.
Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover	Mondays and Thursdays. 6 to 7 p.m.
Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury	Tuesdays and Fridays. 3 to 4 p.m.
General Hospital, St. Peter's Road, Margate		Tuesdays and Fridays. 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

In-patient treatment is available at all of these hospitals. Where necessary full information supplied to seamen concerned. By arrangement with the British Railway authorities posters giving the latest details of these clinics were exhibited in the public conveniences on the Folkestone Harbour.

SECTION IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

An English nurse, aged 25 years, appeared unwell on her arrival at the Folkestone Harbour from Calais, but was allowed to return home by private car with her parents. The patient was admitted to the Chichester Hospital and information subsequently received from her own doctor confirmed that she was suffering from Para-Typhoid Fever.

Table D.

Category.	Disease.	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned.
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ..	Para-Typhoid Fever.	1	-	1
Cases landed from other ships	-	-	-	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	-	-	-

A short account should be given of the measures taken on the arrival by ships of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever included in Table D; (b) any suspected cases of any such disease.

In view of an outbreak of Smallpox in Northern France at the beginning of the year special preventive measures were instituted to check the possible entry of the disease through the Port of Folkestone.

Arrangements were made with the Captain and Purser of the daily boat from Calais, the only passenger service at that time, for a message to be broadcast on the boat before arrival at Folkestone for any passengers who had recently been in the affected areas to go to the Purser's office, and there await a medical check; this was carried out as soon as the boat docked.

The Chief Immigration Officer also co-operated in ensuring that no passengers from that part of France went ashore without first having been seen by a Medical Officer.

Where necessary action was taken in accordance with Sections 31 and 37 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, and ten travellers were subsequently placed under surveillance.

Members of the staffs of the Corporation, H.M. Customs, Immigration Office and British Railway who may have had to be in contact with the ships and passengers were advised, and facilities made available, to have their vaccination state brought up to date.

SECTION X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

No cases occurred during the year.

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No action necessary during the year.

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

(1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

Formal inspections carried out by Dover Health staff and amplified by local Port Health Inspectors during course of routine inspection of vessels.

(2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Facilities exist for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents at the Public Health Laboratory Service, County Hall, Maidstone. None of the rodents sent for examination during 1955.

(3) Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Harbour district treated as necessary by Rodent Operators of the British Railways Southern Region and assistance given by the Borough Rodent Operator as required.

It has not been found necessary over the past few years for work of disinfection to be carried out on ships visiting this Port. If, however, such work were necessary the ships would be treated with Hydrogen Cyanide by the Fumigation Services Ltd., Barking, Essex, under the direction of the Dover Port Health Inspectors.

(4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Not found necessary.

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats)	
Brown rats)	
Species not known)	
Sent for examination)	N I L.
Infected with plague)	

Table F. - NIL.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

None issued - Folkestone is not an approved port.

Certificates for vessels owned by the British Railways and using this port are issued by the Dover Port Health authority.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

Table G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of Inspections.	Notices served.		Result of serving Notices.
	Statutory Notices.	Other Notices.	
General inspection of crews' quarters, food preparing places, etc.	132	- - -	- - -
Total:	132	- - -	- - -

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948.

Information respecting any shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of this authority.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens
(applicable only to ports approved for the
landing of aliens).

(1) List of Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment.

Name.	Date of Appointment.	Qualifications.
R.F.H. McElligott ..	28.10.49.	M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.
J.H. Campbell ..	16. 4.51.	M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
H. Yates ..	-8.10.52.	M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.
C.B. Findlay ..	28. 6.55.	M.B., Ch.B.

All the Medical Inspectors were employed on a part-time basis.

(2) List of other staff engaged on this work.

Name.	Nature of Appointment.	Date of Appointment.	Qualifications.
Mrs. D. Summerfield.	Nurse-Attendant (Part-time).	1937.	S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. and S.N. Cert. of R.S.I.

(3) Organisation of work.

Dr. R.F.H. McElligott, with the assistance of Mrs. D. Summerfield, Nurse-Attendant, is responsible for the organisation of the work.

Regular passenger boats are met by one of the Medical Inspectors and the Nurse-Attendant, and special arrangements made for other boats carrying aliens to be met.

Where prior information has been received (usually from the Immigration Officer or the Ministry of Labour) that a large number of aliens was expected to arrive at the same time, arrangements were made for extra staff to be present in order that the examinations could be completed with the minimum of delay.

In consequence of the Aliens Order, 1953, revised Instructions for the medical inspection of aliens were received from the Ministry of Health during April, 1955 and an amended type of medical certificate introduced.

Commencing with the year ending the 31st December, 1955, the Return of Medical Examinations of Aliens will, in future, be rendered annually instead of half-yearly as before.

(4) Nature and amount of aliens traffic.

The aliens arriving to take up employment in this country continue to come mainly from Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Germany and France.

During 1955 there were 1,159 more aliens examined compared with 1954, and the total of 9,855 examinations is the highest since 1951 when there were 10,740.

The men were mainly for employment in the tinplate works, brick and tile works, iron foundries, coalite works, hotels and for technical and professional employment with various firms; the women were mainly domestics, children's nurses and governesses, assistant hospital nurses, ward orderlies, textile and factory workers.

A summary of the number of aliens arriving, examined and certificates issued during 1955 is set out below:-

A. Total number of arriving vessels carrying aliens -		
(a) Passenger		571.
(b) Carbo		48.
	<u>TOTAL:</u>	619.
B. Total number of arriving aliens (excluding crews)		70,195.
C. Total number of aliens medically examined		9,855.
D. Reports and certificates for aliens medically examined;		

Nature of report or certificate.	Total number of reports and certificates issued.	Aliens NOT PERMITTED to land.
A. Unsound mind or mentally defective	3	3
B(1). Undesirable for medical reasons	9	8
B(2)(a). Inability to support	2	1
B(2)(b). Likely to require medical treatment ..	3	-
C. Conditionally landed for further medical exam.	-	-
<u>TOTALS:</u>	17	12

E. Transmigrants landing and medically examined Nil.

F. Analysis of aliens referred by Immigration Officer for medical examination:-

			<u>Number examined.</u>	<u>Certificates issued.</u>
(i)	Ministry of Labour permits (ML)	9,585	14	
(ii)	Immigrants without ML permits	148	-	
(iii)	Others remaining more than three months and intending to take up employment	63	-	
(iv)	Students	24	-	
(v)	Visiting for health reasons ..	11	1	
(vi)	Appearing to the Immigration Officer to be:			
	(a) not in robust health ..	16	2	
	(b) mentally or physically abnormal or subnormal ..	-	-	
	(c) bodily dirty	-	-	
	(d) in need of medical examination for other special reasons	-	-	
(vii)	Seamen or airmen travelling as passengers	8	-	
<hr/>				
<u>TOTAL:</u>			<u>9,855</u>	<u>17</u>
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(5) Accommodation for medical inspection and examination.

A medical inspection room off the Harbour Station platform is available, but the usual practice of carrying out the examinations in cabins on board passenger ships has been continued.

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

A mortuary and adequate burial and cremation facilities are available in the district.

SECTION XVII -- Food Inspection.

Information supplied by L.H. Vale, Esq., Chief Sanitary Inspector for Borough and Port of Folkestone.

(1) Summary of Foodstuffs imported during 1955.

FOODSTUFF.	BOULOGNE		CALAIS	
	TONS	CWTS.	TONS	CWTS.
Dates	1858	17	-	-
Bried Beans	10	1	-	-
Fish (including shell-fish)	12	14	-	-
Fruit (various types)	300	-	-	-
Nuts	8	10	-	-
Preserved Fruit ..	7	2	19	4
Preservēd Meat ..	41	11	29	5
Vegetables	62	9	-	-
<hr/>			<hr/>	
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>2301</u>	<u>.4</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>9</u>

Grand Total: 2,349 tons 13 cwts.

(2) Foodstuffs condemned.

290 boxes of Spanish apricots ..	176 tons 4 cwts.
2 " " Italian cherries ..	28-lbs.
27 " " fish ..	132 stones.

(3) Visits to Port.

The Port Health Inspectors made 527 visits during the year.

(4) Number of Samples of Food examined by:-

- (a) Bacteriologist: Nil.
- (b) Analyst: 1 sample.
(Chemical examination).

Nature of Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
Canned Truffles.	A meat paste containing small particles of truffles. The meat content was adequate and the sample was free from poisonous metals and preservatives.	Satisfactory.

(5) Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937 and 1948.

- (a) 10 cases of Italian salami sausage.
- (b) 11 " " " "
- (c) 10 " " " hams.
- (d) 1 cask of sheep's casings.

The above arrived without "Official Certificates" and in each case were landed from France. Importation was prohibited and the consignments were later re-exported.

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